

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 16 as follows:

Y element reacts with impurity oxygen contained in AlN raw material powder thereby to generate a liquid phase composed of yttria-alumina-metal compound (YAM, $2Y_2O_3 \cdot Al_2O_3$) or the like, and Y element has a function as sintering promoter for achieving a densification of the sintered body. In addition, Y element fixes the impurity oxygen as the grain boundary phase thereby to achieve the high thermal conduction. For realizing ~~these~~ this function, Y element is added at an amount of 0.2 to 2 mass% in terms of oxide thereof.